



Atty. Docket No.:  
VAA-004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	Group Art Unit:	3765
Vahid Saadat	)		
	)		
Serial No.: 09/746,579	)	Examiner: Ismael Izaguirre	
	)		
Filed: December 20, 2000	)		
	)		
For: MULTI-BARBED DEVICE FOR	)		
RETAINING TISSUE IN	)		
APPOSITION AND METHODS	)		
OF USE	)		

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir or Madam:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, applicant makes the below-listed document of record in the above-identified application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not a representation that the information cited is effective as prior art to the application or is material to patentability.

U.S. Patent Documents

6,645,226 B1

Jacobs, et al.

11/2003

Copy of the above-listed document, which is listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08, is enclosed.

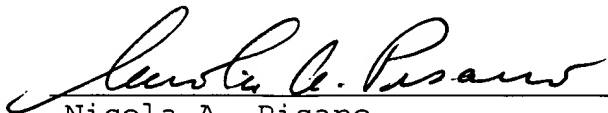
It is respectfully requested that this document be (1) fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the examination of the above-identified application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. It is also respectfully requested that a copy of Form PTO/SB/08, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

In the event that a fee is required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2298, in the name of Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

March 15, 2004

  
Nicola A. Pisano  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 34,408  
c/o LUCE, FORWARD, HAMILTON &  
SCRIPPS LLP  
11988 El Camino Real, Ste. 200  
San Diego, California 92130  
Telephone No.: (858) 720-6300



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)  
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		<b>Application Number</b>	09/746,579
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Filing Date</b>	December 20, 2000
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Vahid Saadat
		<b>Art Unit</b>	3765
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	Ismail Izaguirre
<b>Sheet</b>	1	<b>of</b>	1
		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	VAA-004

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 6,645,226	11-11-2003	Jacobs et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
-------------------------------	--	----------------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind's Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.